Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2016-17

Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)150

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0254)

<u>Head</u>: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

<u>Programme</u>: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

(4) Public Education and Community Involvement

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government launched a two-month "Keep Clean 2015@Hong Kong: Our Home" Campaign in August 2015. In this connection, please provide information on the following:

- (a) details of the "Keep Clean 2015@Hong Kong: Our Home" Campaign, including the expenditure and manpower involved;
- (b) whether the effectiveness of the "Keep Clean 2015@Hong Kong: Our Home" Campaign has been reviewed; if yes, please provide the details; and
- (c) whether consideration has been given to organising the "Territory-wide Cleansing Campaign" on a regular basis to enhance public awareness of hygiene.

Asked by: Hon Steven HO Chun-yin (Member Question No. 21)

Reply:

The information sought is given below –

(a) The Government launched in August to September 2015 the "Keep Clean 2015 @ Hong Kong: Our Home" campaign (the Campaign) to promote cross-sector partnership and community involvement in keeping Hong Kong clean. At the same time, efforts to improve environmental hygiene were stepped up, including targeted actions at clearing hygiene blackspots. Measures were also devised to tackle some long-standing environmental hygiene problems including those posed by private streets and private rear lanes, "three nil" buildings, marine refuse and construction waste. Relevant bureaux and departments have made use of their existing resources and mobilised support from different sectors to cope with relevant cleansing and publicity work, which is an integral part of their work. There is no separate breakdown on the resources so deployed.

- (b) The experience of the Campaign facilitated the Government's consideration of how environmental hygiene may be enhanced more effectively. First and foremost, the Campaign has highlighted the importance of community involvement in setting the priority and monitoring cleaning work at the district level. To this end, the Food and Health Bureau has proposed establishing a platform for regular exchange of views with the Environmental Hygiene Committees of the 18 District Councils. On the part of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), other operational measures would also be introduced. These include enhancing street washing services; strengthening contract management for outsourced cleansing services, more focused efforts to clear hygiene blackspots (including certain private rear lanes). FEHD will also enhance the services for clearing marine refuse at the priority sites within its purview.
- (c) The importance of raising hygiene awareness in the community cannot be over-emphasised. The Government will continue to step up publicity and public education efforts including organising different activities from time to time.